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**Fax transmission from:**

U.S. Naval Research Laboratory  
Associate Counsel Intellectual Property, Code 1008.2  
4555 Overlook Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20375-5325

**From:** Joe Grunkemeyer  
Phone: (202) 404-1556  
Fax: (202) 404-7380  
**Date:** 09/18/2002

**To:** Examiner Richard Hutson  
Art Group 1652  
Fax: (703) 305-3014  
Cover Sheet + 29 Pages

**Message:**

Re: Serial no: 07/725,309

Filed: 11/20/2000

Inventor: Singh et al.

Docket no: 79,212

Fee transmittal sheet - 1 page

Amendment - 21 pages

Publication - 7 pages

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PATENT APPLICATION  
Navy Case No.: 79,212

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of: Singh et al.

Serial No.: 09/725,309

Filed: 11/29/2000

For: PASSIVATION OF NERVE AGENTS BY SURFACE MODIFIED ENZYMES  
STABILIZED BY NON-COVALENT IMMOBILIZATION ON ROBUST, STABLE  
PARTICLES

Examiner: Hutson, Richard

Art Group Unit: 1652

September 18, 2002

Honorable Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

## AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed on 06/18/2002, with a shortened statutory period of reply set for three months, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows.

In the specification, please replace the identified paragraphs with the following rewritten paragraphs.

Paragraph beginning at page 5, line 2

a' (1) Silica particle precursors, such as TEOS or TMOS are to be co-hydrolyzed with IDA-modified alkoxysilanes using the Stober process (Stober et al., Journal of Colloid Interface Science 26:62, 1968); or

Paragraph beginning at page 5, line 19

az sub B1 Examples of enzymes which are useful in detoxifying nerve agents are thioesterases, although the process of the present invention can be used with any type of enzyme useful for

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